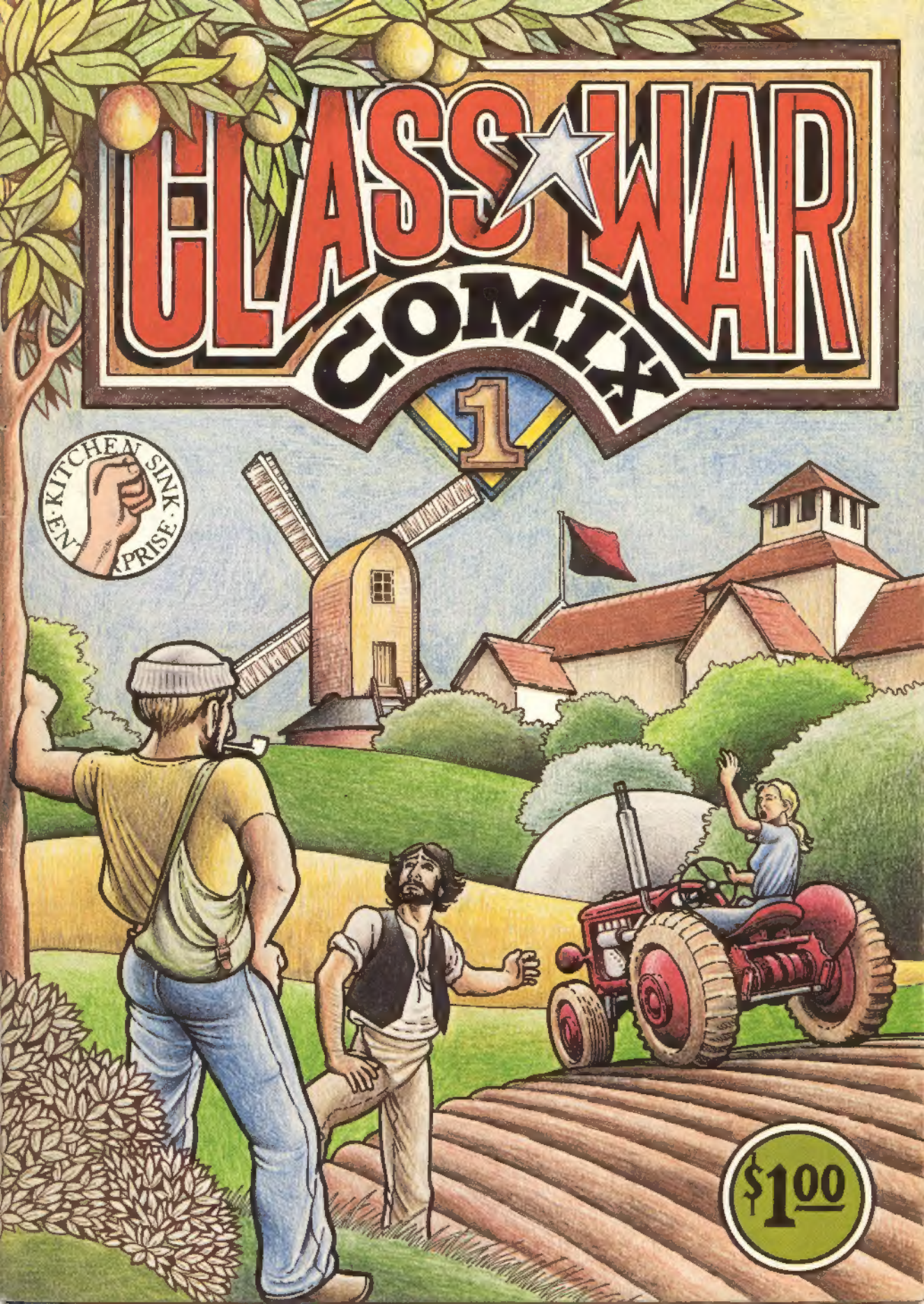


CLASS WAR

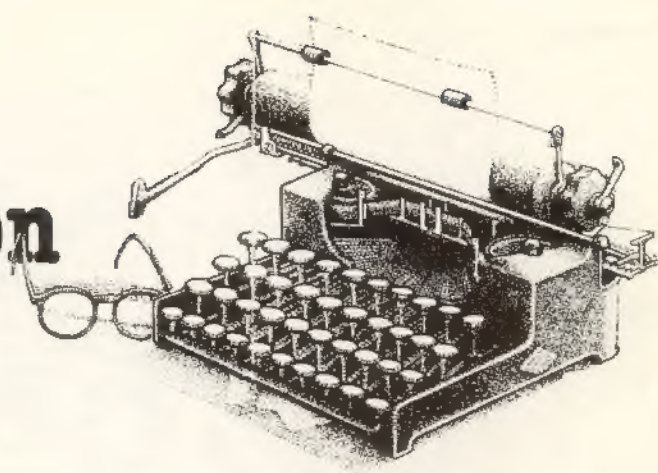
COMIX

1



\$100

Introduction



It is not often that we have a chance to vote on our art and entertainment. But the unique comic you hold in your hands represents just such an opportunity.

Class War Comix No.1 is the first chapter of a graphic novel which is projected to run for six volumes. Its artist, Cliff Harper, is a cartoonist and illustrator, well-known in England for his strong and elegant art dealing with ecology and politics. This comic was begun in 1972 following a period where Cliff, like many others, lived communally in the country.

Cliff's experiences raised doubts in his mind about the "back to the land" movement being a real solution to society's problems. As an artist and an anarchist, these doubts found expression in Cliff's work.

He began to draw an epic story about English society after a political revolution has occurred. Within such a future framework conflicts arise between the city and the country, the old and the young, the "Party" and free anarchists. In this first book we begin to see the seeds of these conflicts as we visit a commune in the country.

Class War Comix No.1 was finished and printed in England in a limited edition in 1974. Though the edition sold out, Cliff received little in the way of feedback or encouragement. Discouraged, he temporarily abandoned his epic.

Cliff's graphic novel, however, deserves to be finished, for its story relates directly to the dreams many of us had in the 60's and the reality we've had to live with in the 70's. Many of us who once harbored ideas of Revolution and radical change have put those ideas aside over the years without ever really acknowledging or analyzing our disenchantment. Though the Vietnam war is over and Nixon is gone, courtesy of a palace coup, our social and political order still assaults us daily, daring us to change it. Now, poised at the beginning of yet another decade (already!), it is a good time to stop a moment, and reflect on where we are headed. What might a revolution actually mean? Cliff takes us inside that alternative future and shows us one possibility.

I'm pleased that Kitchen Sink is bringing out a new edition of **Class War Comix**, for a wider audience this time. Your support for this project, both by reading it and writing the publisher with your reactions, will let Cliff know that it's a story worth continuing!

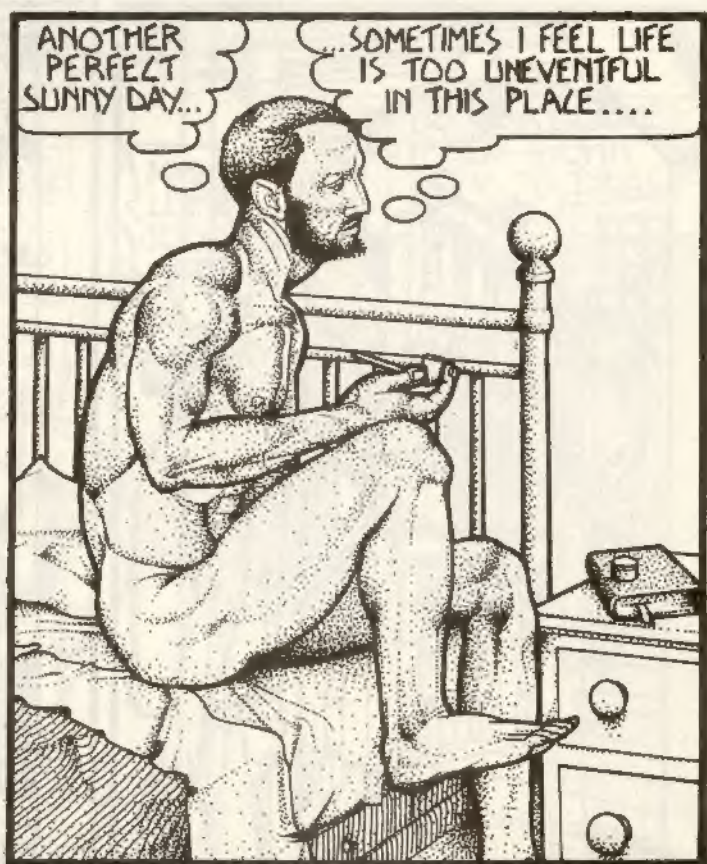
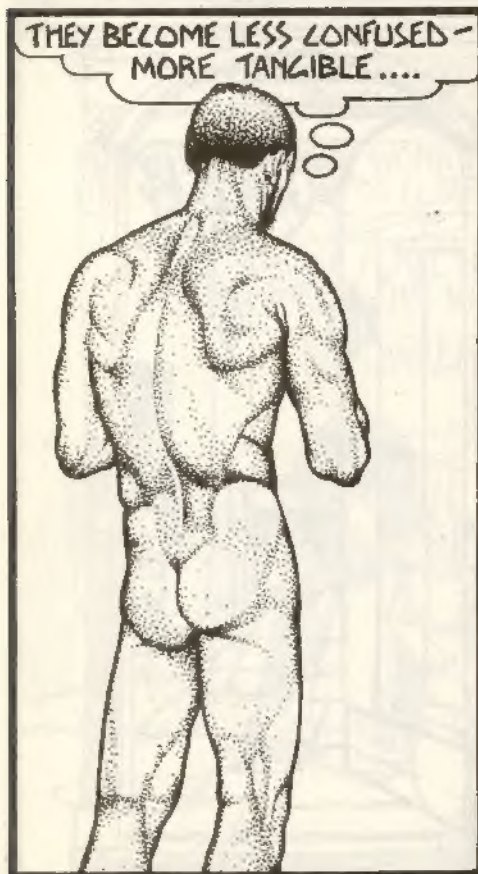
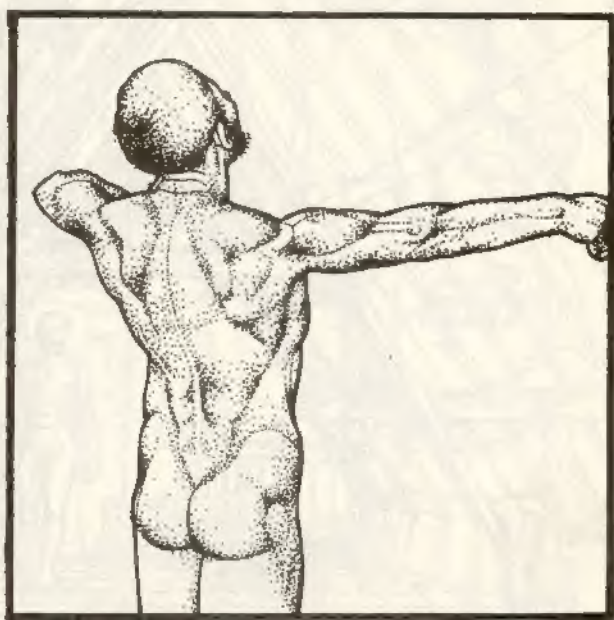
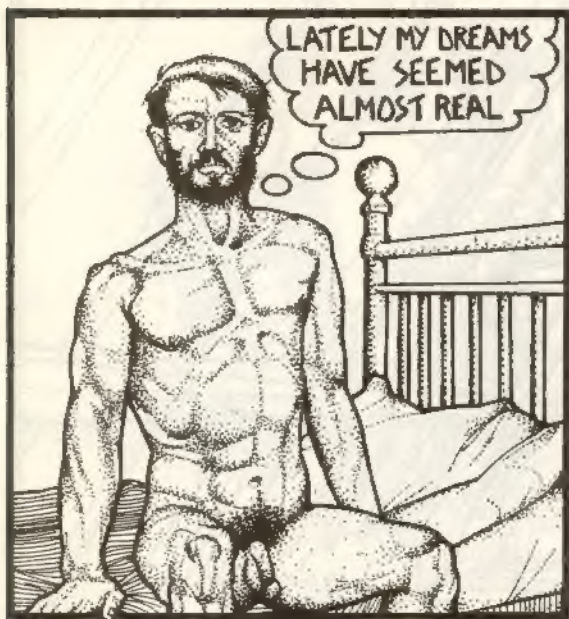
Jay Kinney

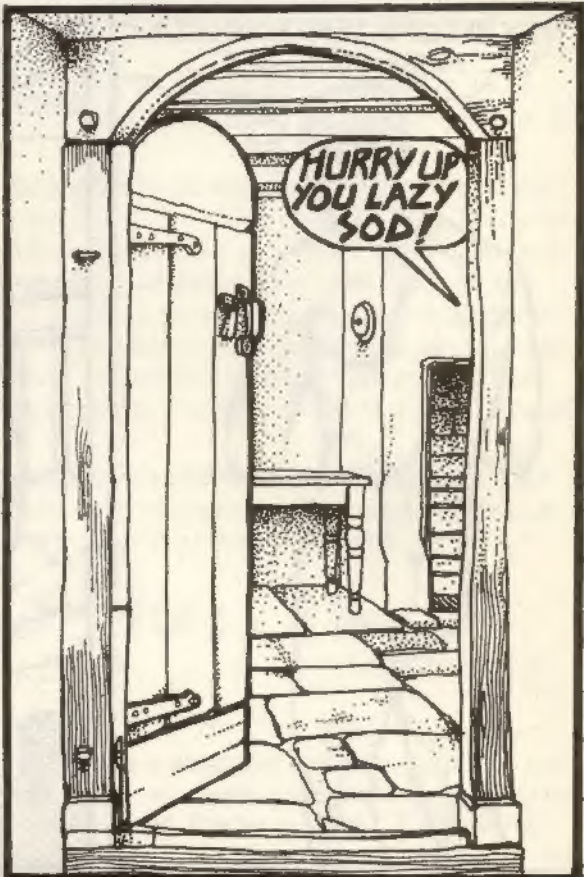
(Editor, *Young Lust*
and *Anarchy Comics*)

CLASS WAR COMICS No.1 is published by Kitchen Sink Enterprises, a division of Krupp Comic Works, Inc., P.O. Box 7, Princeton, Wisconsin 54968. Phone (414) 295-3972. Free wholesale catalog on request. Entire contents copyright © 1974 and 1979 by Clifford Harper. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A. First printing (U.S.A.) March 1979. Printing number 5 4 3 2 1.

Further art by Cliff Harper can be found in *Anarchy Comics*, published by Last Gasp, San Francisco.

FOLLOWING THE INITIAL SUCCESS OF THE REVOLUTION A NUMBER OF LARGE RURAL COMMUNES HAVE SPONTANEOUSLY GROWN UP. IT IS HERE IN ONE SUCH COMMUNE THAT WE BEGIN OUR JOURNEY THROUGH POST-REVOLUTIONARY BRITAIN... WE ARE IN THE ATTIC OF THE HOUSE WHERE THE CARPENTRY COLLECTIVE LIVE...





GOOD MORNING, PETE!

MORNING ALL!



I THINK I'LL GO INTO THE WORKSHOP TODAY...

THERE'S **PLENTY** OF WORK HERE-
THE BACKYARD NEEDS CLEARING UP.

THE GARDEN FENCE NEEDS
FIXING-THERE'S THAT WINDOW

NO CHANCE, MATES, I PROMISED



UNDER THE NEW REGIME,
THE KITCHEN WORK
WILL BELONG TO THOSE
WHO EAT!

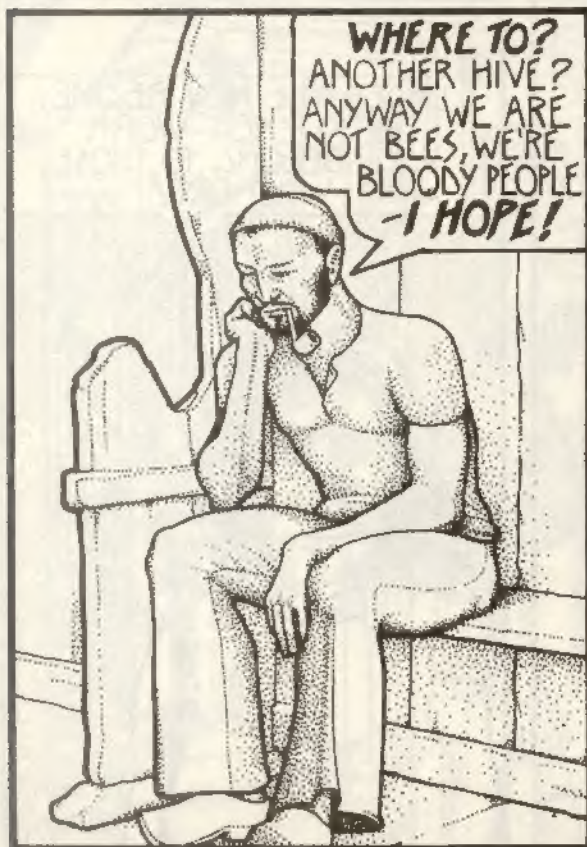


I WAS OUT AT THE HIVES EARLIER.
D'YOU REMEMBER LAST YEAR? THE
WORKER BEES KICKED OUT ALL
THE DRONES - 'COS THEY DON'T WORK
ENOUGH - AND THEY AIN'T GOT STINGS

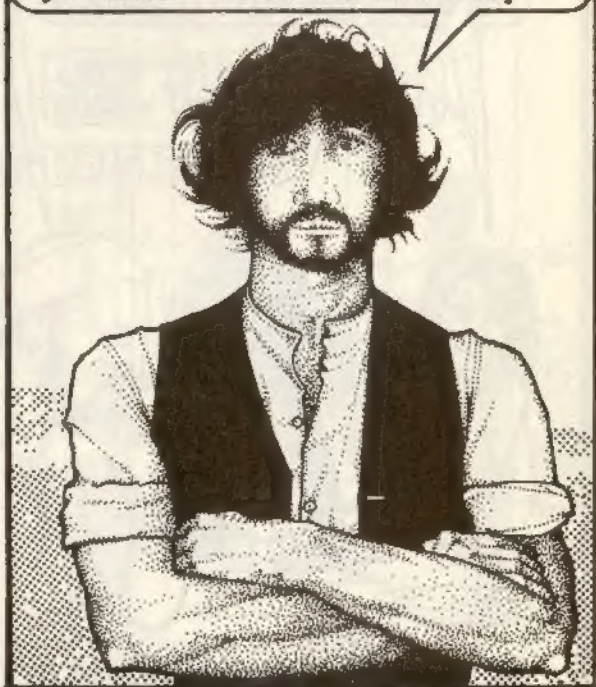
RIGHT! IF THEY DON'T
ACT FIRMLY THEN THE
DRONES WILL UNDER-
MINE ALL THEY'VE BUILT.
SO THEY DRIVE 'EM OUT!



WHERE TO?
ANOTHER HIVE?
ANYWAY WE ARE
NOT BEES, WE'RE
BLOODY PEOPLE
- I HOPE!



YES, YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S TOO CRUEL
A SOLUTION - **BUT** THEY HAVE
SOLVED THE PROBLEM - THAT
IS MORE THAN WE CAN DO!





ALAN, IF YOU ARE ALL SO WORRIED WHY NOT HAVE A ROTA-WITH WHISTLES AND STOPWATCHES AND TIME-SHEETS AND....

NO! YOU SHOULD BE MORE AWARE OF THE **COLLECTIVE'S** NEEDS!

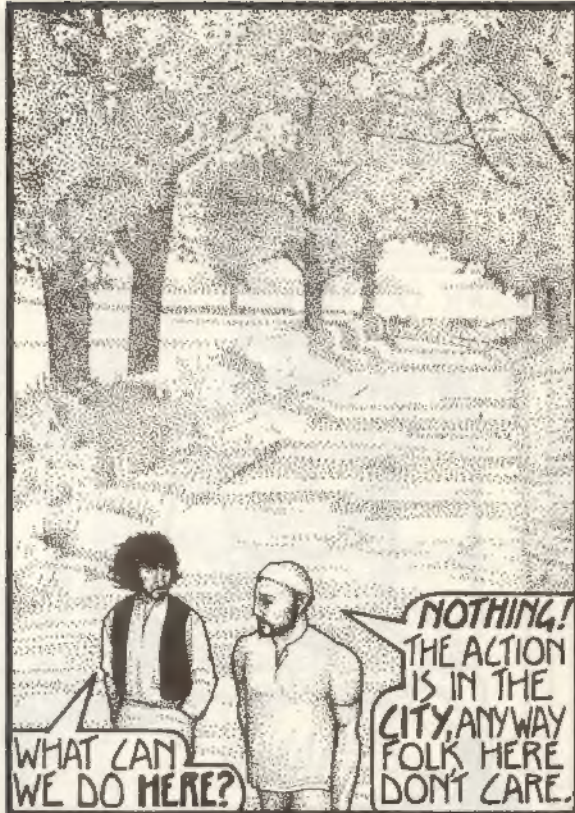


CHRIST, MARTHA'S STILL WORKING ON THAT DITCH!



HARD WORK? S'POSE SO-STILL IT KEEPS ME FIT...ANYWAY, I DIG THIS JOB....





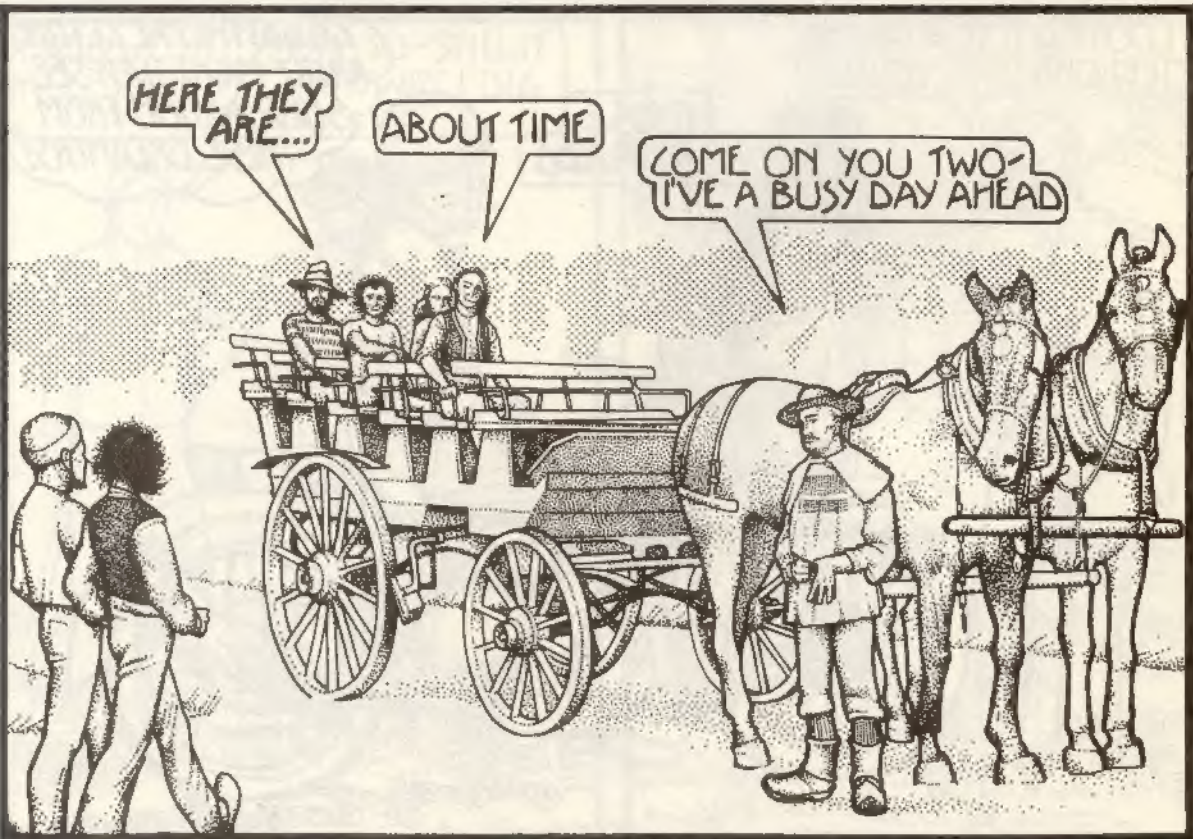
WHAT CAN WE DO HERE?

NOTHING!
THE ACTION IS IN THE CITY, ANYWAY. FOLK HERE DON'T CARE.



YEAH, FIRST THEY'LL BE ANGRY-BUT- THEY WILL SOON FORGET- UNLESS IT THREATENS THEIR EVERY DAY LIVES!

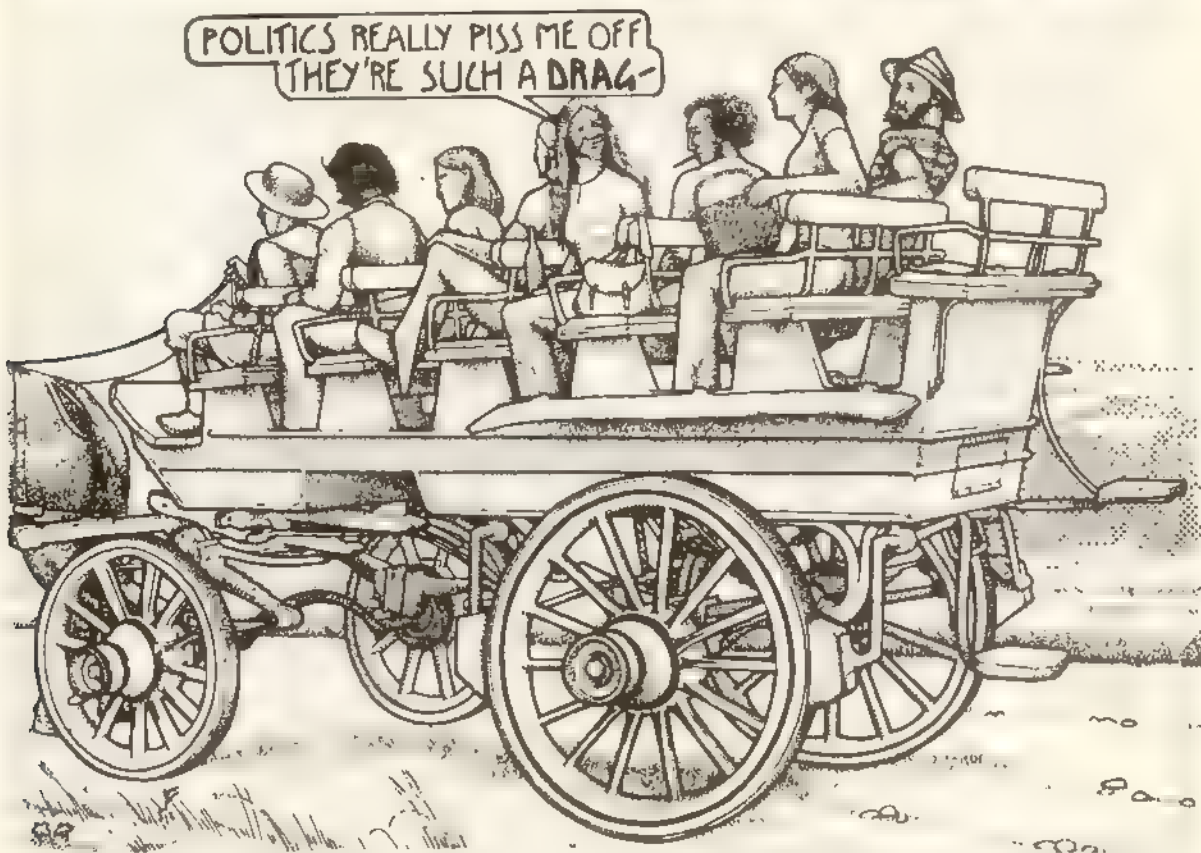
WE MUST DISCUSS IT AT TONIGHT'S **MEETING**-IT IS ABOUT TIME WE CLEARED UP OUR POSITION!



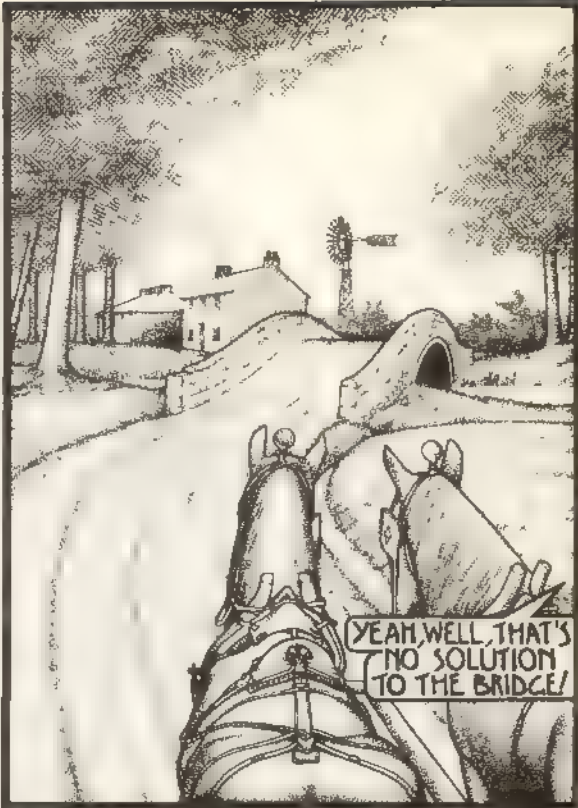
HERE THEY ARE...

ABOUT TIME

COME ON YOU TWO- I'VE A BUSY DAY AHEAD



I USED TO BE INTO POLITICS—
BUT IT BEGAN TO HANG ME UP.
I KNOW LOTS OF BAD THINGS
GO ON IN THE WORLD—BUT
EVERYTHING AROUND ME
IS A REFLECTION OF
MYSELF—SO THERE
IS NOTHING I CAN
DO ABOUT IT.
YOU CAN'T LAY
A TRIP ON
PEOPLE.



THE COMMUNE IS THE LARGEST POSSIBLE UNIT IN A FREE SOCIETY.
IT IS NO MORE OR LESS THAN THE VOLUNTARY FEDERATION OF
AUTONOMOUS COLLECTIVES. EACH COLLECTIVE, EITHER SELF-
SUPPORTING OR FULFILLING A SPECIFIC FUNCTION, CO-OPERATING
WITH ALL OTHERS FOR MUTUAL AID AND BENEFIT.



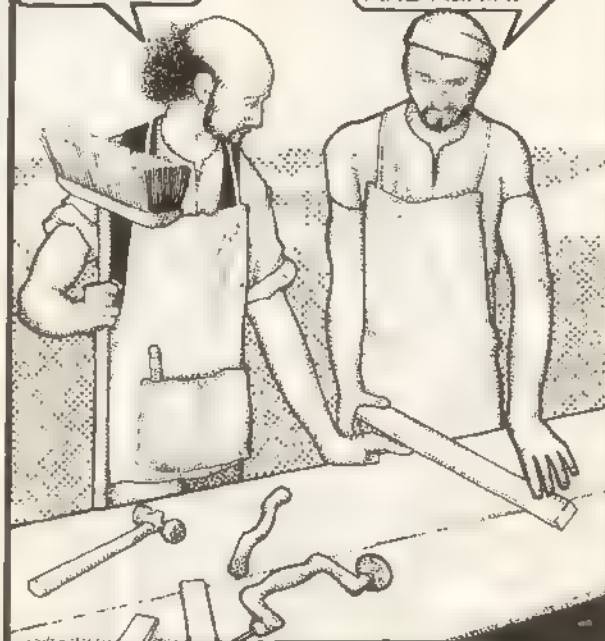


I THOUGHT I'D COME IN TODAY AND FINISH THE JOB I LEFT LYING ABOUT.

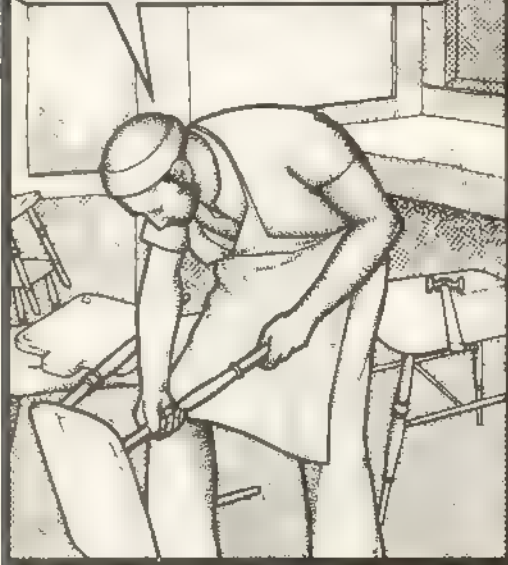
ABOUT BLOODY TIME! THOSE CHAIRS HAVE BEEN GETTING UNDER MY FEET ALL WEEK! THERE ARE HALF A DOZEN NEW JOBS HANGING ABOUT AS WELL...

PETE, UNLESS YOU WORK AT IT YOU'LL NEVER MAKE A GOOD CRAFTSMAN - IT NEEDS DEDICATION.

I'M NOT SURE ANY MORE... I JUST WANT TO BE ABLE TO DO A USEFUL JOB NOW AND AGAIN!



I DON'T WANT TO BE JUST A CRAFTSMAN-I'M NOT THAT INTERESTED IN PERFECTION... IF I FEEL LIKE WORKING-I WORK-NOBODY HOLDS THE BIG WHIP OVER ME-IT DON'T EXIST



OH! THAT LINE DOESN'T CUT ANY ICE WITH ME, PETE.... SUPPOSE **EVERYONE** THOUGHT LIKE YOU AND WORKED ONLY WHEN IT PLEASED 'EM?



THAT'S JUST IT! PEOPLE **REALLY** WORK ONLY WHEN THEY WANT TO- **DON'T YOU?**

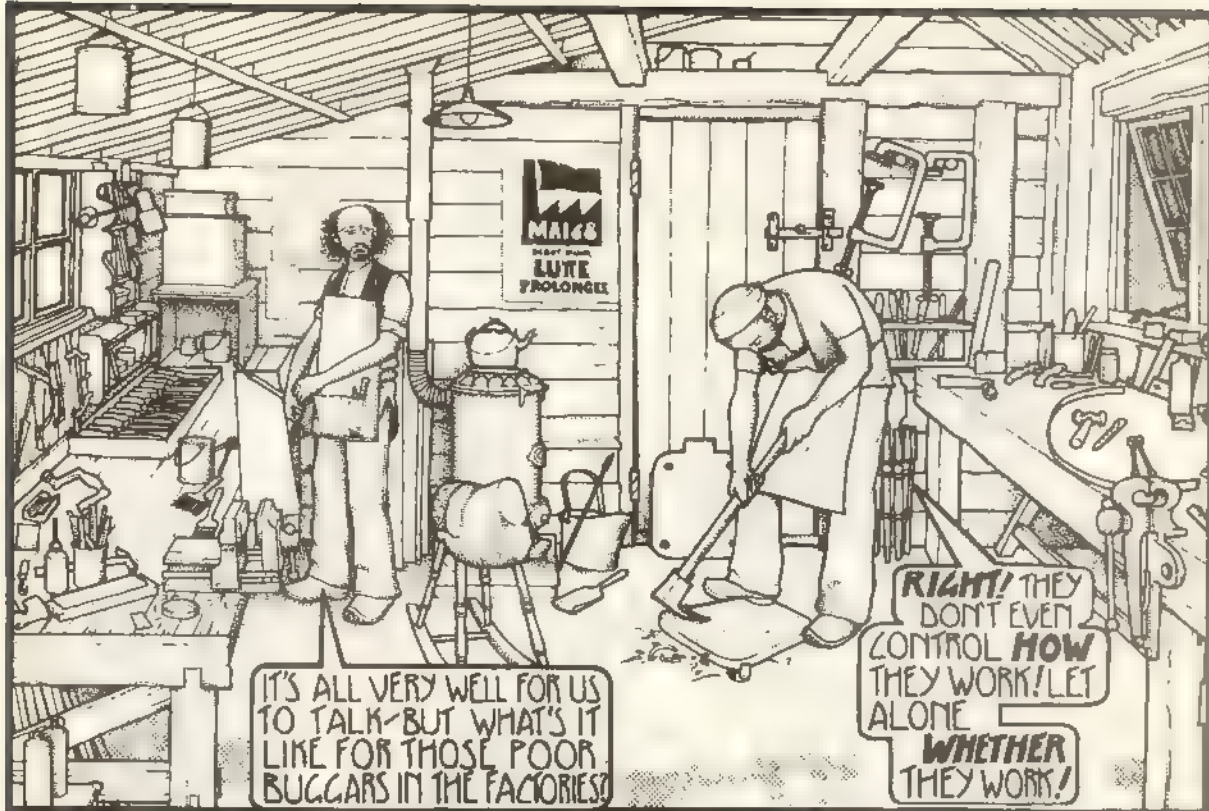
I DUNNO, THIS JOB'S A PAIN IN THE NECK - BUT I'M STILL DOING IT....



-AND AS LONG AS YOU FEEL LIKE THAT YOU'LL MAKE A BALLS UP OF IT! IF I FEEL THAT WAY I STOP WORKING!

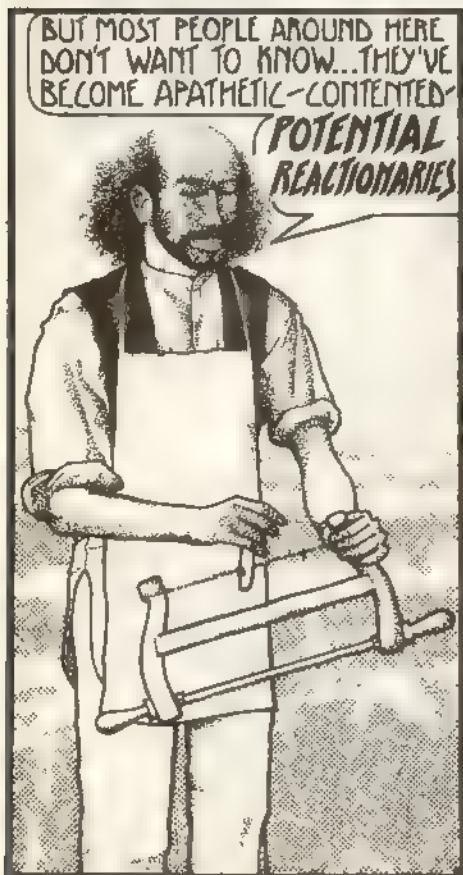


RIGHT! IF I WAS MADE TO WORK WHEN I DIDN'T WANT TO-I'D **DOWN TOOLS!**



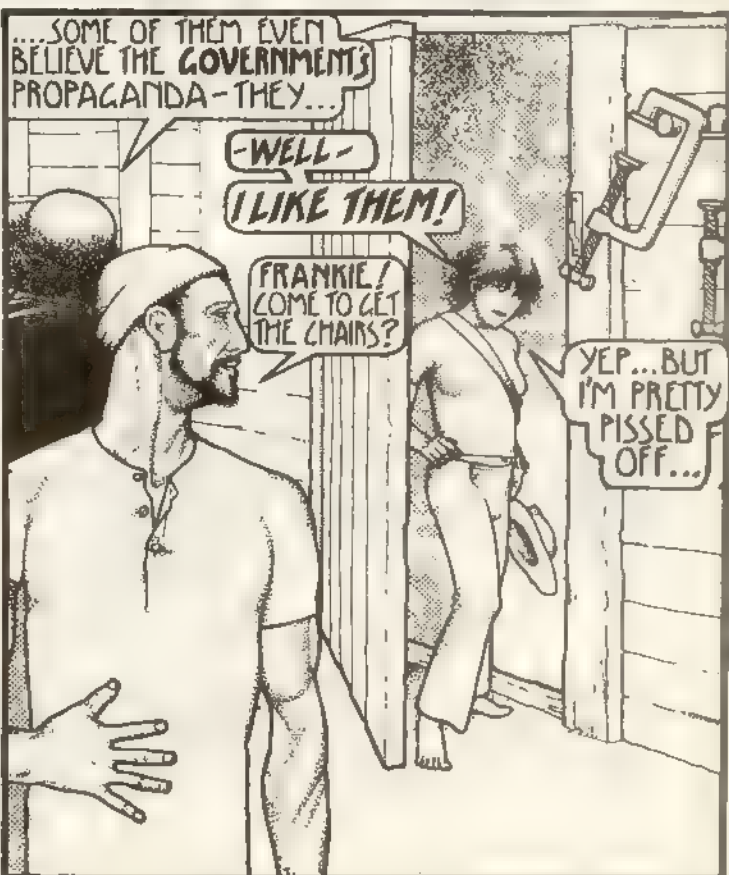
IT'S ALL VERY WELL FOR US
TO TALK-BUT WHAT'S IT
LIKE FOR THOSE POOR
BUGGARS IN THE FACTORIES?

RIGHT! THEY
DON'T EVEN
CONTROL **HOW**
THEY WORK! LET
ALONE
WHETHER
THEY WORK!



BUT MOST PEOPLE AROUND HERE
DON'T WANT TO KNOW...THEY'VE
BECOME APATHETIC-CONTENTED-

**POTENTIAL
REACTIONARIES**



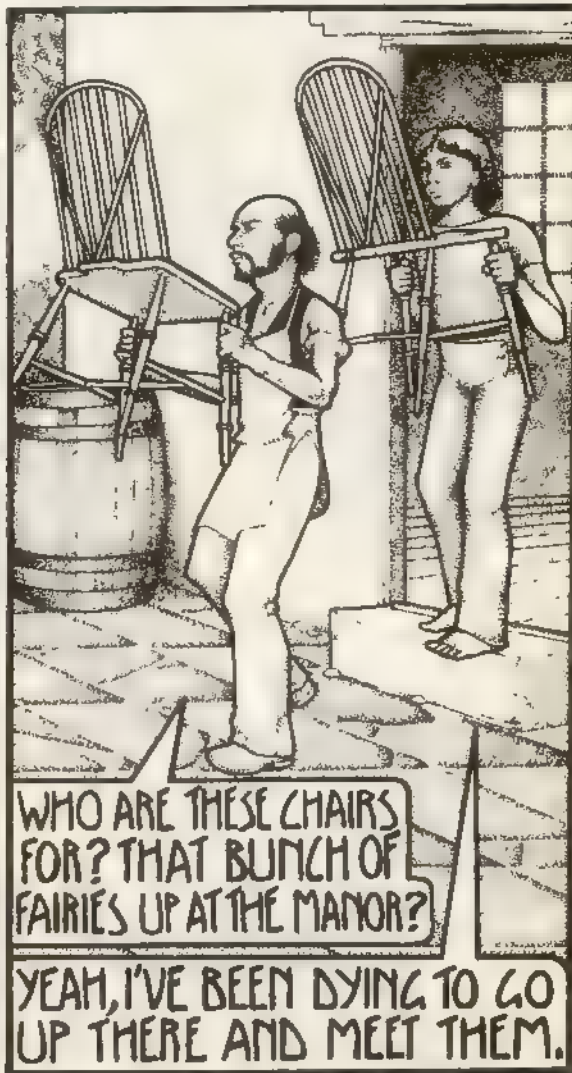
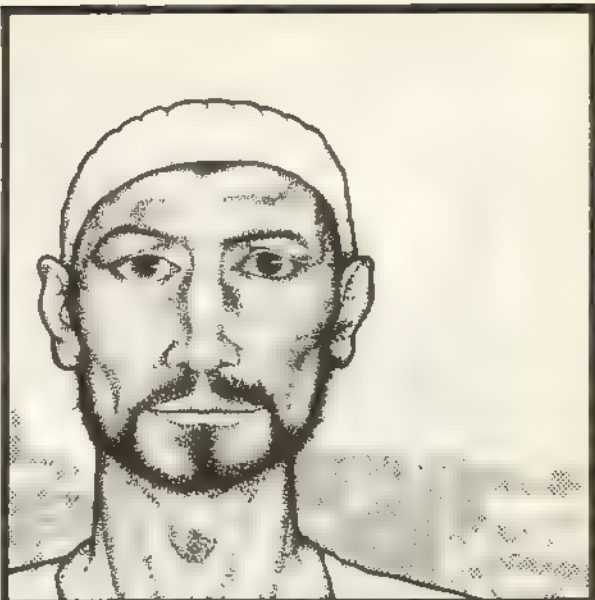
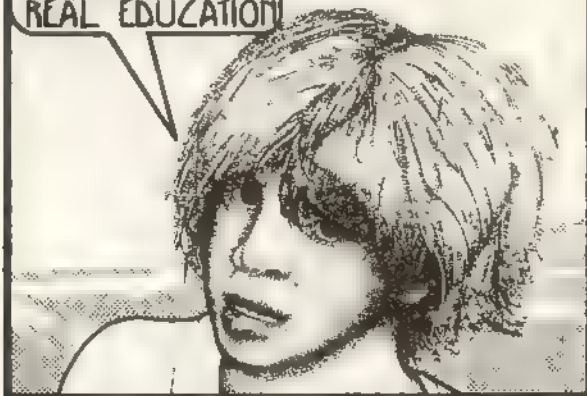
...SOME OF THEM EVEN
BELIEVE THE **GOVERNMENT'S**
PROPAGANDA-THEY...

-WELL-
I LIKE THEM!

FRANKIE!
COME TO GET
THE CHAIRS?

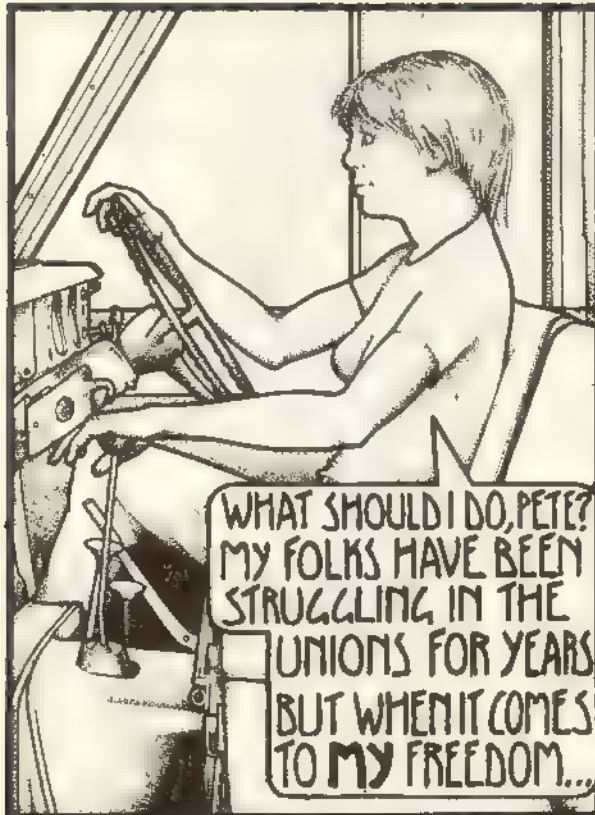
YEP...BUT
I'M PRETTY
PISSED
OFF...

I'VE JUST HEARD MY FOLKS WANT ME
TO GO TO A BLEEDIN' FREE SKOOL
IN THE CITY—THEY THINK I'M NOT
LEARNING ENOUGH—THEY DON'T
SEE, HERE I GET A
REAL EDUCATION



WHO ARE THESE CHAIRS
FOR? THAT BUNCH OF
FAIRIES UP AT THE MANOR?

YEAH, I'VE BEEN DYING TO GO
UP THERE AND MEET THEM.



WHAT SHOULD I DO, PETE?
MY FOLKS HAVE BEEN
STRUGGLING IN THE
UNIONS FOR YEARS
BUT WHEN IT COMES
TO MY FREEDOM...



I KNOW HOW THEY FEEL
FRANKIE—WE SEEM TO BE
MOVING MUCH TOO FAST.
'YOU HAVE GOT TO WALK
BEFORE YOU RUN'...AND
ALL THAT
STUFF....



ANYHOW I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU
SHOULD DO, IT IS REALLY YOUR
DECISION, FRANKIE.....

THE IDEAL AND ABSOLUTE SOLUTION FROM THE INDIVIDUAL'S STANDPOINT WOULD BE A SOCIETY THAT EXISTED NOT FOR ITSELF, NOT FOR ITS ALL OVER-RIDING COLLECTIVE PURPOSE, BUT FOR THE GOOD OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND HIS FULFILMENT, FOR THE GREATER AND MORE PERFECT LIFE OF ALL ITS MEMBERS. REPRESENTING AS FAR AS POSSIBLE HIS BEST SELF AND HELPING HIM TO REALISE IT, IT WOULD RESPECT THE FREEDOM OF EACH OF ITS MEMBERS AND MAINTAIN ITSELF NOT BY LAW AND FORCE BUT BY THE FREE AND SPONTANEOUS CONSENT OF ITS CONSTITUENT PERSONS.



PETE! I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE COMING TODAY-



WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ON A NEW SERIES OF SONGS-YOU MUST STAY AND LISTEN TO THEM...

SURE, I'D LIKE THAT...MAYBE YOU COULD SING THEM AT TONIGHTS MEETING?

OF COURSE, THAT WOULD BE NICE-IS THAT WHY YOU CAME?



NO, FRANKIE BROUGHT UP YOUR NEW CHAIRS IN ONE OF THE TRANSPORT COLLECTIVE'S TRUCKS.



FRANKIE, COULD WE BORROW
YOUR TRUCK FOR A FEW
DAYS? WE'RE RENOVATING THIS
HOUSE AND WE NEED TO
MOVE UP SOME BIG ROOF

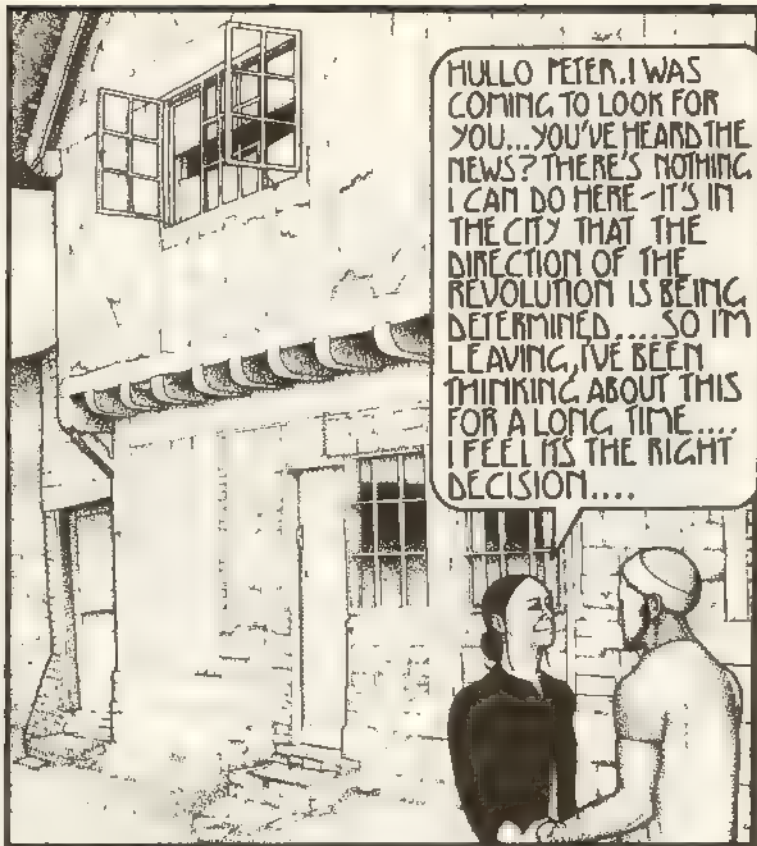
TIMBERS
FROM THE
WOOD
YARD...

-IT CAN CARRY-WE'RE DEVELOPING
A NEW FUEL SYSTEM, BASED ON
**WIND-GENERATED
ELECTROLYTIC HYDROGEN!**

SURE-BUT I WILL
HAVE TO GET THE
COLLECTIVE'S O.K.
THE TRUCK'S MILEAGE
IS LIMITED BY THE
AMOUNT OF METHANE-



LATER, BACK AT THE COMMUNE

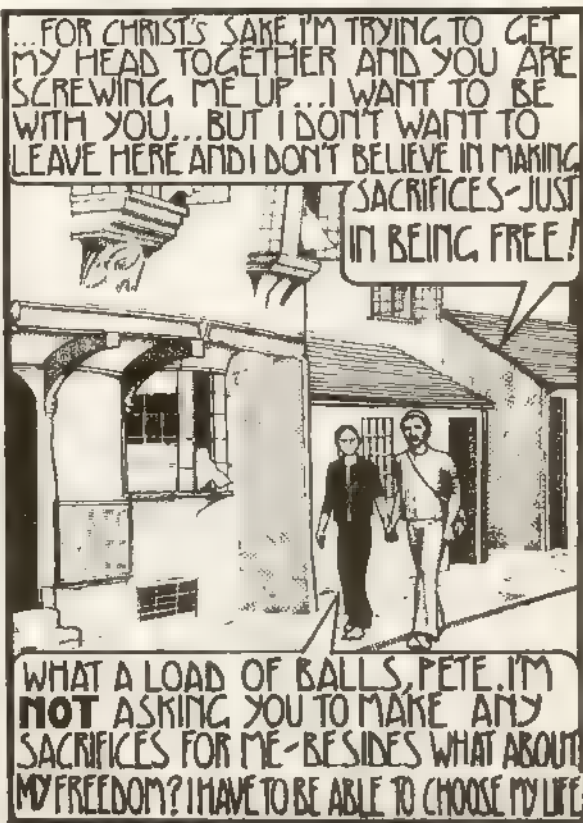


HULLO PETER. I WAS COMING TO LOOK FOR YOU... YOU'VE HEARD THE NEWS? THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO HERE - IT'S IN THE CITY THAT THE DIRECTION OF THE REVOLUTION IS BEING DETERMINED... SO I'M LEAVING. I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS FOR A LONG TIME... I FEEL IT'S THE RIGHT DECISION....



I WOULD LIKE YOU TO COME WITH ME... BUT IF YOU WANT TO STAY HERE THAT'S UP TO YOU...

LOOK JEANE, WE'VE BEEN THROUGH THIS BEFORE - WHY CAN'T YOU BE CONTENT HERE WITH ME?



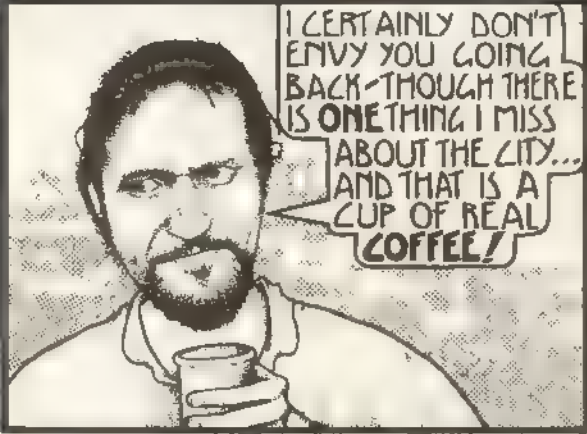
FOR CHRIST'S SAKE, I'M TRYING TO GET MY HEAD TOGETHER AND YOU ARE SCREWING ME UP... I WANT TO BE WITH YOU... BUT I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE HERE AND I DON'T BELIEVE IN MAKING SACRIFICES - JUST IN BEING FREE!

WHAT A LOAD OF BALLS, PETE. I'M **NOT** ASKING YOU TO MAKE ANY SACRIFICES FOR ME - BESIDES WHAT ABOUT MY FREEDOM? I HAVE TO BE ABLE TO CHOOSE MY LIFE

I HEAR YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE US, LOVE. YOU TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.

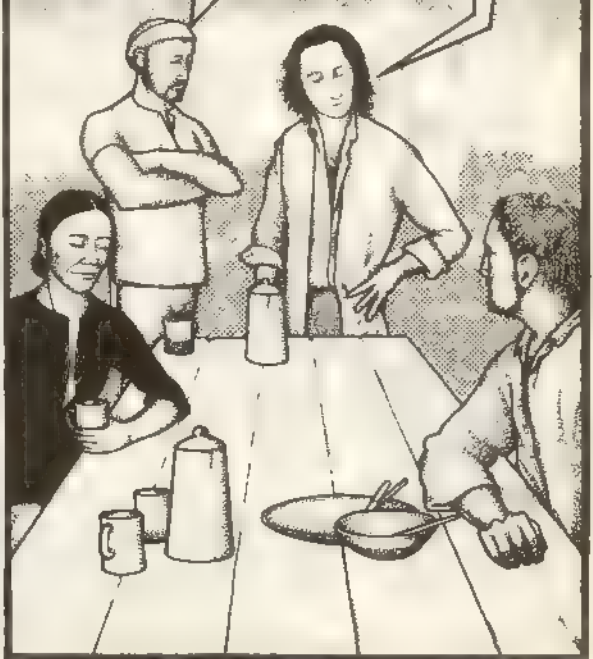


I CERTAINLY DON'T ENVY YOU GOING BACK-THOUGH THERE IS ONE THING I MISS ABOUT THE CITY... AND THAT IS A CUP OF REAL COFFEE!

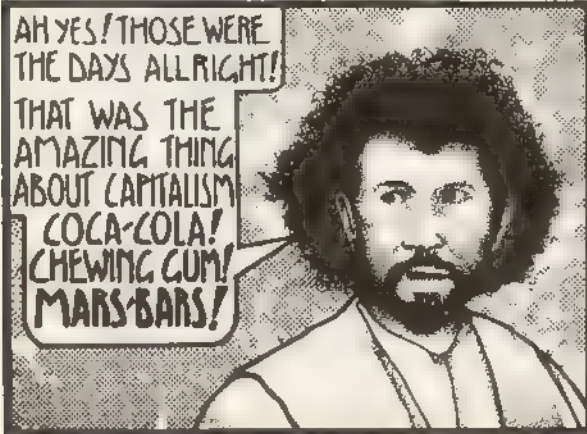


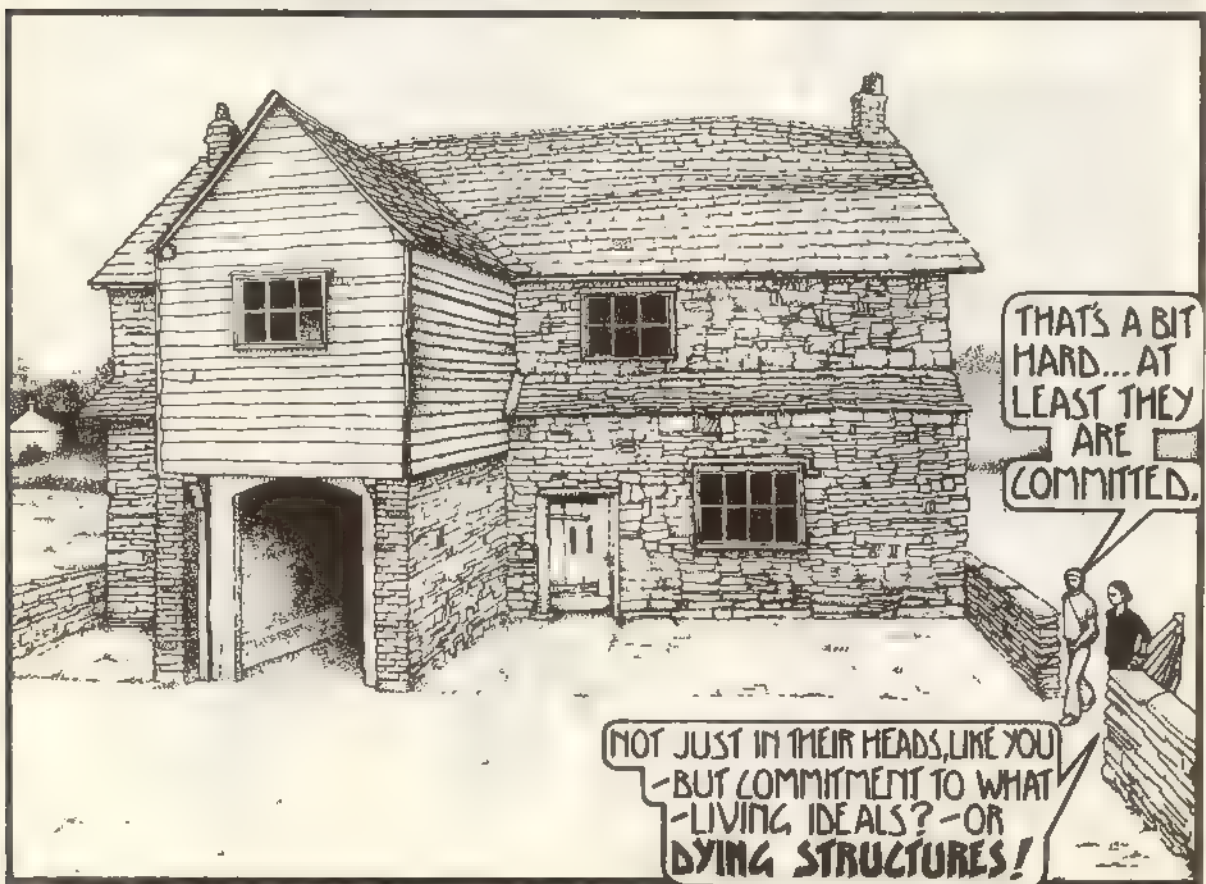
ARE YOU LOT IMPLYING, THAT MY ACORN BREW ISN'T AS GOOD AS NESCAFE? I ALWAYS SAID - EVERYTIME YOU DRINK A CUP OF COFFEE YOU SAY YES TO THE SYSTEM!

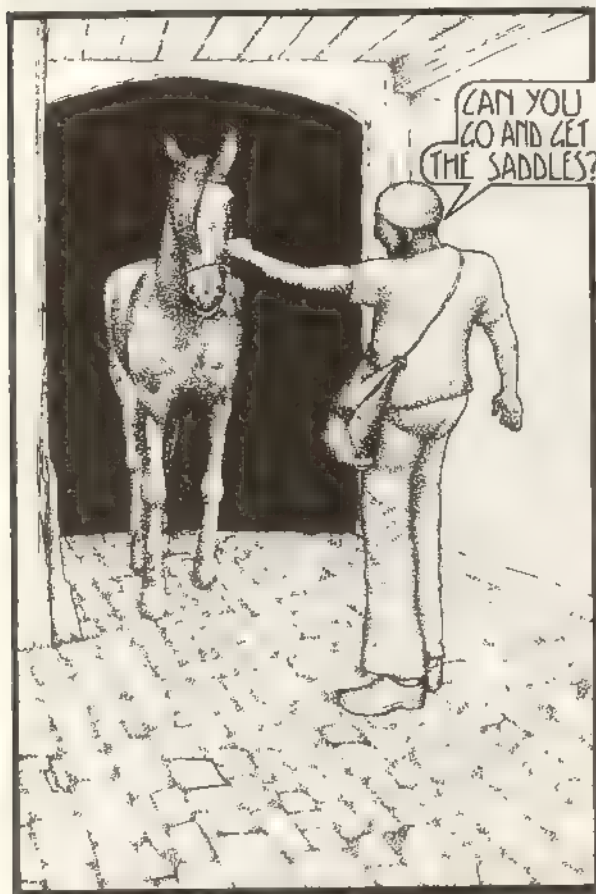
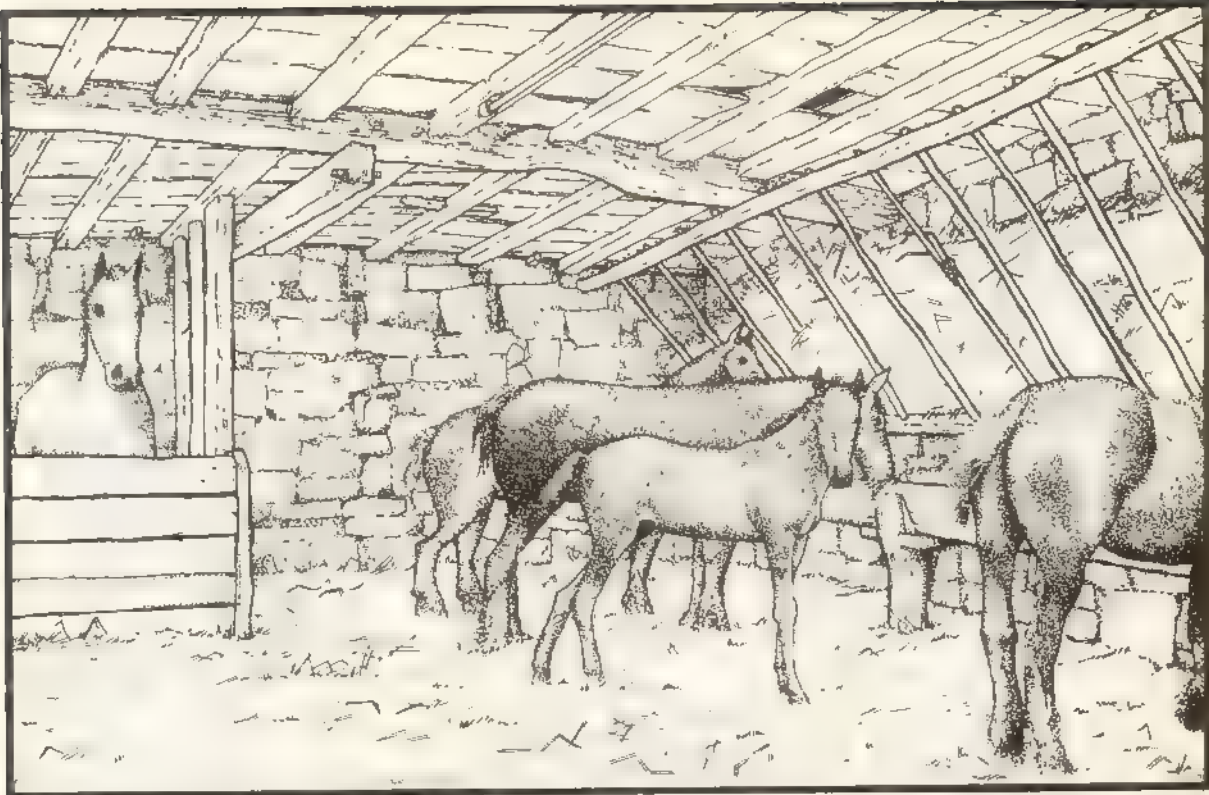
NO ONE'S GETTING AT YOU ARNOLD. NOSTALGIA'S ALLRIGHT-SO LONG AS IT DOESN'T DRAG US BACK INTO THE PAST.



AH YES! THOSE WERE THE DAYS ALLRIGHT! THAT WAS THE AMAZING THING ABOUT CAPITALISM COCA-COLA! CHEWING GUM! MARS BARS!







HOW MANY OF
OUR FRIENDS HAVE
BEEN INTERMED?

I WONDER HOW DAVE AND
SHEILA WILL TAKE THE NEWS

I'M NOT SURE PETE- THEY HAVE
BELONGED TO THE PARTY FROM THE
VERY BEGINNING... AND THEY'VE
BEEN MY FRIENDS FOR AS LONG...

DO YOU THINK THIS
COULD MEAN THE
FINISH OF YOUR
FRIENDSHIP?

YES- I DO- IT IS
THAT IMPORTANT-

BUT EVEN THEY
CANNOT IGNORE
ALL THESE
SIGNS!

I WOULDN'T COUNT
ON IT. THEIR PARTY'S
BEEN THEIR STRENGTH
FOR SO LONG. MAYBE
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE-

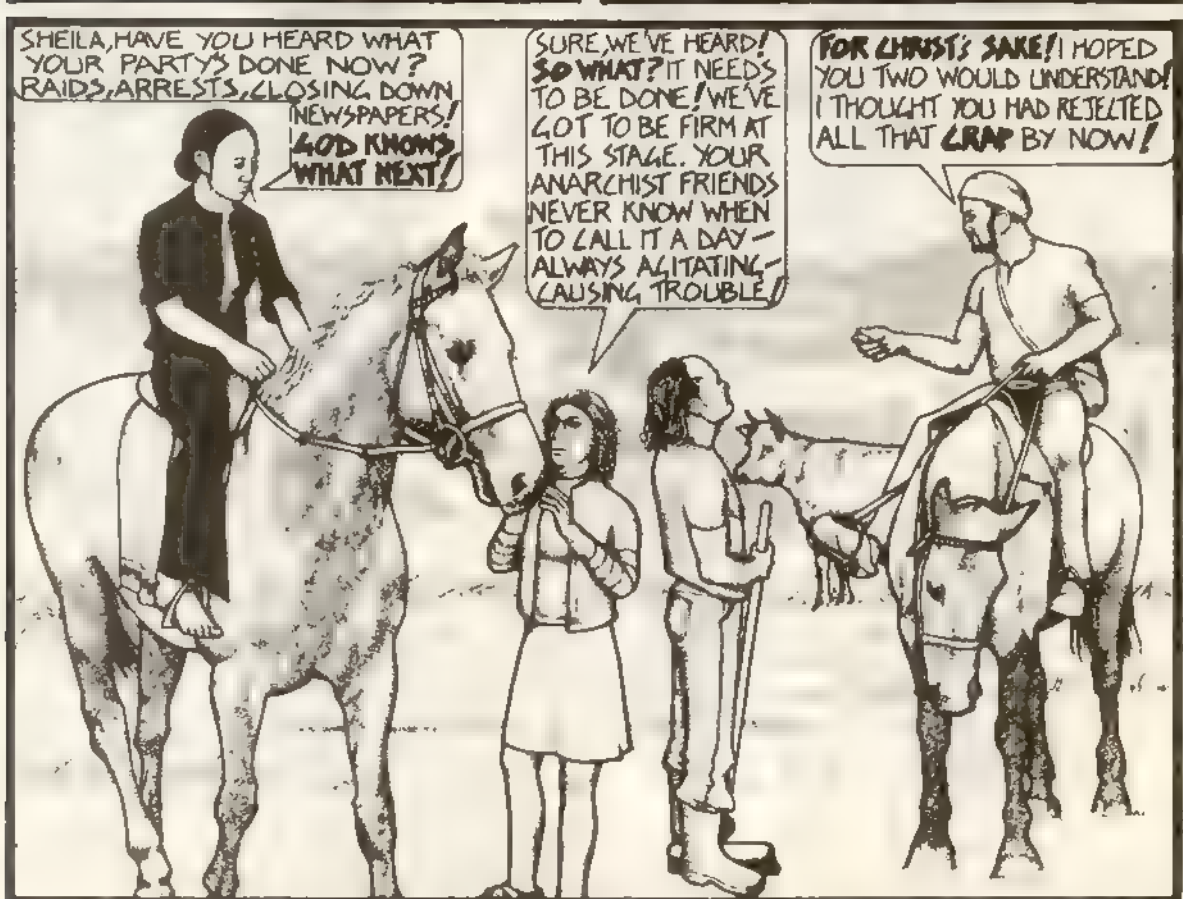
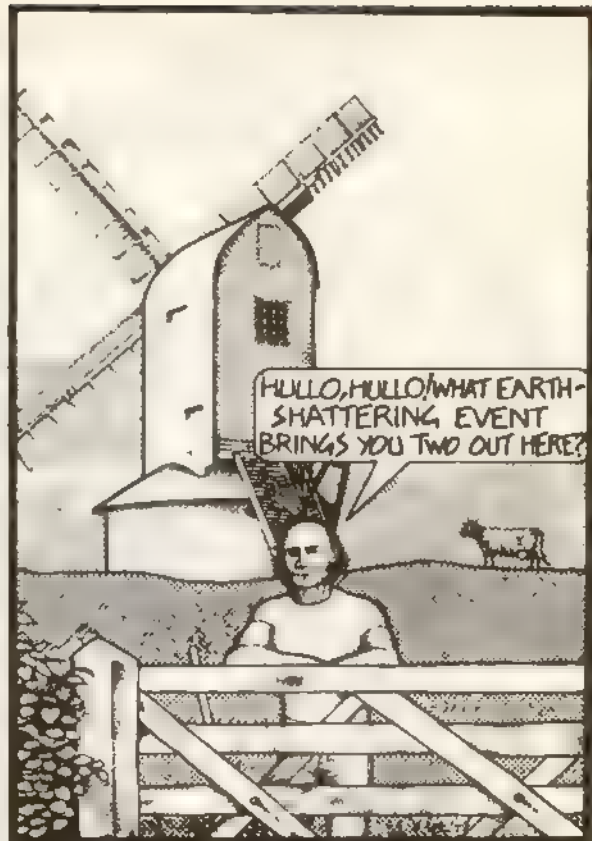
IF WE NO LONGER
UNDERSTAND...

ONE ANOTHER-
HOW CAN WE BE
FRIENDS...?

FOR THEM TO
BREAK AWAY-
AND IN SUCH
A SITUATION
A LITTLE THING
LIKE OUR OLD
FRIENDSHIP
MAY MEAN-

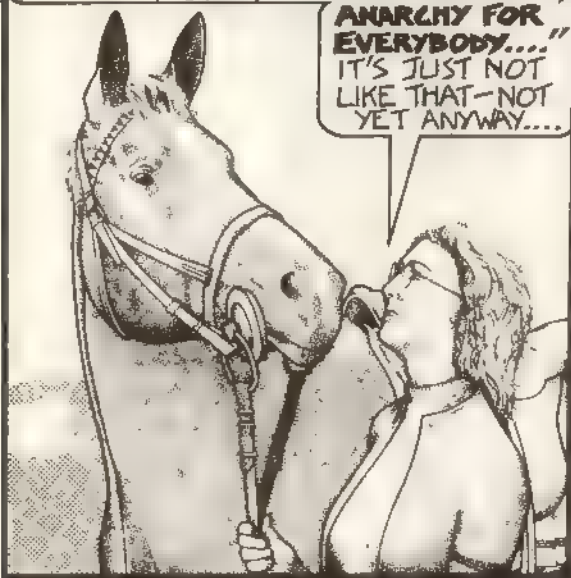
-NOTHING!
ABSOLUTELY
NOTHING
AT ALL!

I HOPE THAT
YOU ARE
WRONG. SOME
THINGS MUST
SURVIVE ALL
THIS...



WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE WRONG, PETE! WE KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON. IN THE PARTY WE HAVE A CLEAR VIEW OF THINGS, WE SEE THE WHOLE PICTURE, NOT JUST ONE LITTLE CORNER! OUR FEET ARE FIRMLY ON THE GROUND. I KNOW YOU'VE FOUGHT JUST AS HARD AS ANYBODY FOR THE REVOLUTION—BUT IT'S NOT TIME YET TO SIT BACK AND SAY... "RIGHT, THE STRUGGLE'S OVER, WE'RE ALL FREE NOW,

ANARCHY FOR EVERYBODY..." IT'S JUST NOT LIKE THAT—NOT YET ANYWAY...



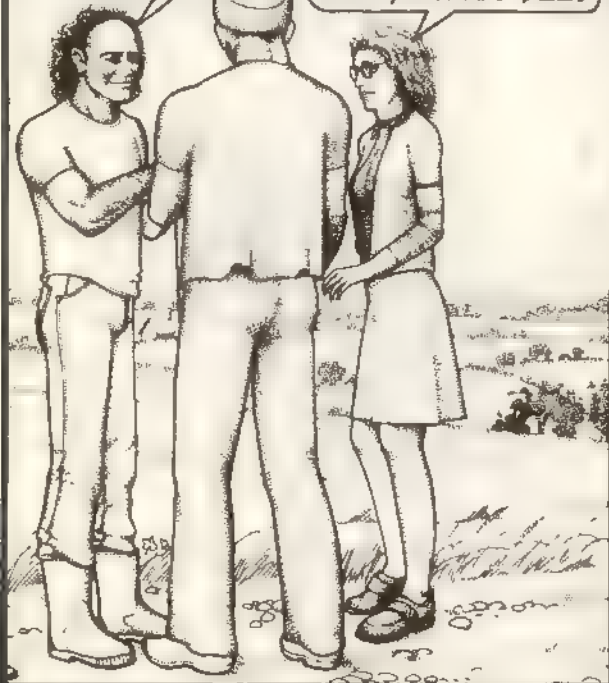
IF WE ALL DID THAT, FORGOT OUR DISCIPLINE, WHAT WOULD HAPPEN? THERE'D BE **CHAOS** OVERNIGHT. IT'S BEEN A STRUGGLE SO FAR BUT IT'S STILL NOT FINISHED, THERE'S A **HELL** OF A LONG WAY TO GO... AND IF YOU DON'T SEE THAT, PETE, THEN YOU'RE **BLIND**—

—AND **DANGEROUS**—TO ALL THOSE AROUND YOU. THAT'S WHY THE PARTY IS ACTING IN THIS WAY. THAT CROWD WERE DOING MORE HARM THAN GOOD

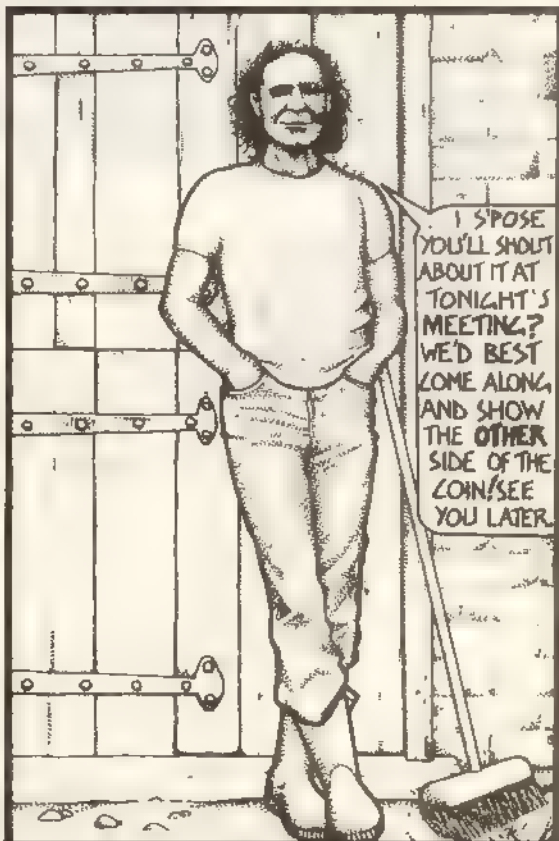


...HAVE YOU HEARD WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN SAYING? THE FINAL ACT OF THE REVOLUTION—**SMASH THE PARD!**

—IN OTHER WORDS—**COUNTER REVOLUTION!** MAYBE THIS ALL SOUNDS EXTREME... BUT LATER YOU'LL SEE, WE ARE RIGHT, WAIT AND SEE!

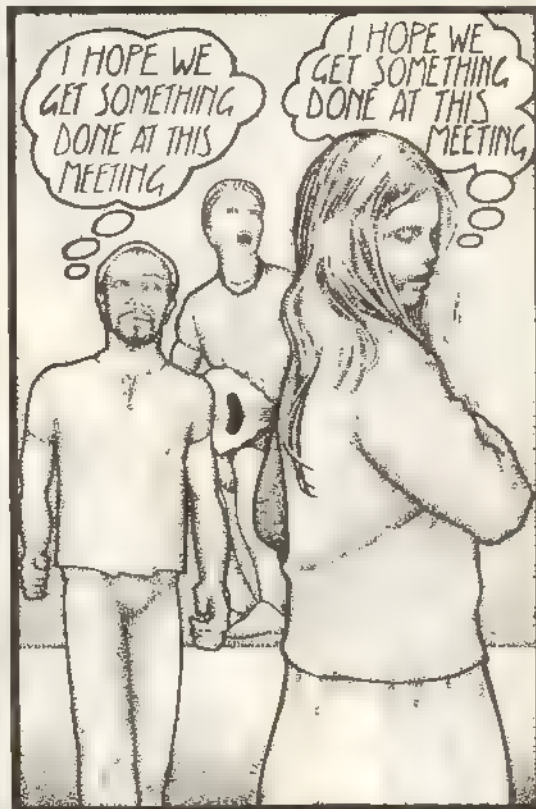


I SPOSE YOU'LL SHOUT ABOUT IT AT TONIGHT'S MEETING? WE'D BEST COME ALONG AND SHOW THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN/SEE YOU LATER.



THE MANY DECISIONS THAT NEED TO BE MADE CONCERNING ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE, INDIVIDUALLY, COLLECTIVELY ARE DISCUSSED AT WEEKLY MEETINGS OF ALL. NO DECISIONS CAN BE REACHED UNTIL EVERYONE CONCERNED HAS FULLY DISCUSSED ALL THE ANGLES AND BEEN MADE AWARE OF ALL THE IMPLICATIONS. EVEN THEN, GREAT THOUGHT IS GIVEN TO ALL OF THE POSSIBILITIES AND THE CARRYING OUT OF A DECISION IS OFTEN PUT OFF FOR A LONG TIME. ESPECIALLY WHEREVER THE DESTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS AND GROWING THINGS IS INVOLVED. IN FACT, SUCH DECISIONS ARE BEST AVOIDED







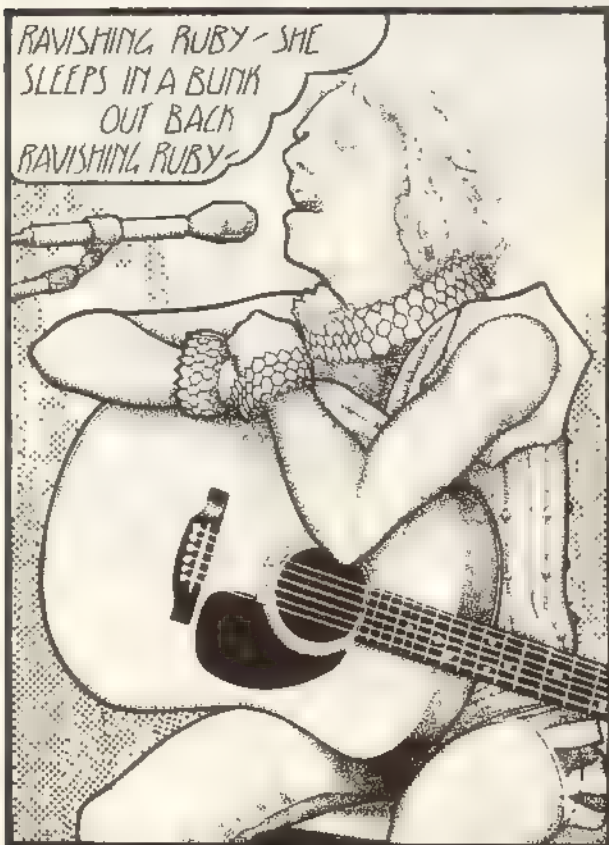
WE'D LIKE TO FINISH OUR
SHOW WITH AN EARLY
ELIZABETHAN MADRIGAL -
JOIN IN THE CHORUS IF YOU CAN.



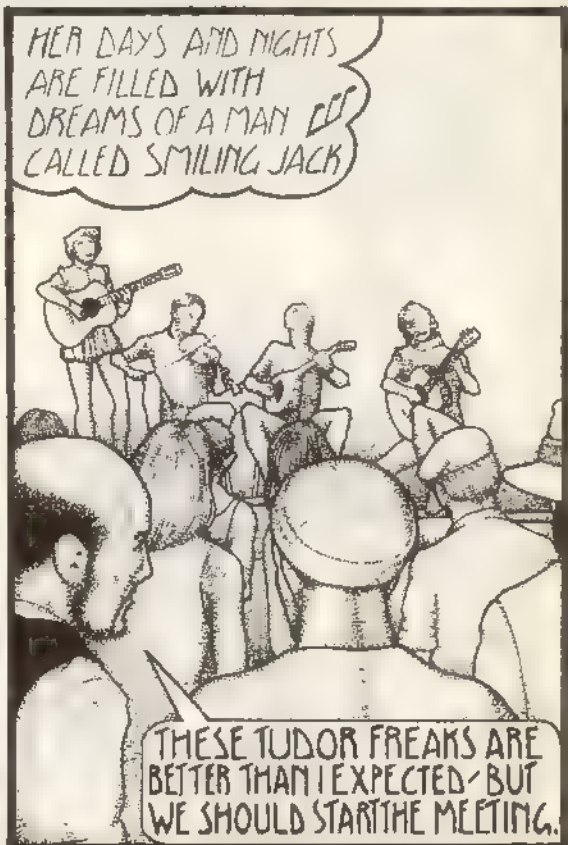
RAVISHING RUBY
BORN IN THE BACK OF A RIG
SOMEWHERE NEAR L.A.
RAVISHING RUBY

YOU'VE POURED
A LOT OF HOT COFFEE
IN YOUR DAY

R R R



RAVISHING RUBY - SHE
SLEEPS IN A BUNK
OUT BACK
RAVISHING RUBY -



HER DAYS AND NIGHTS
ARE FILLED WITH
DREAMS OF A MAN
CALLED SMILING JACK

THESE TUDOR FREAKS ARE
BETTER THAN I EXPECTED - BUT
WE SHOULD START THE MEETING.

O.K! LETS BEGIN TONIGHTS MEETING-THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF ARGUMENT ABOUT OUR BRIDGE-JIM HERE THINKS WE SHOULD PULL IT DOWN



YOU ALL KNOW WHAT I THINK- THAT BRIDGE HAS GOTTA COME DOWN -AND A NEW ONE'S GOTTA GO UP.... ONE DAY THERE'LL BE A VERY NASTY ACCIDENT...I SAY- **BUILD A NEW ONE!**

RIGHT! NO ONE WANTS TO BE RUN DOWN BY JIMS BUS! SO...SHOULD WE WIDEN THE EXISTING BRIDGE....?

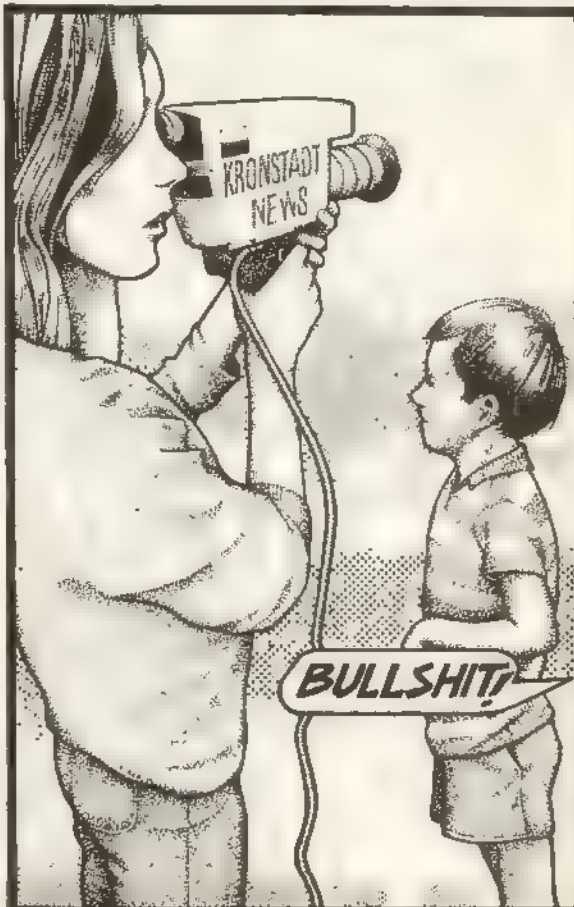


OR CAN WE BUILD ANOTHER BRIDGE SOMEWHERE ELSE?

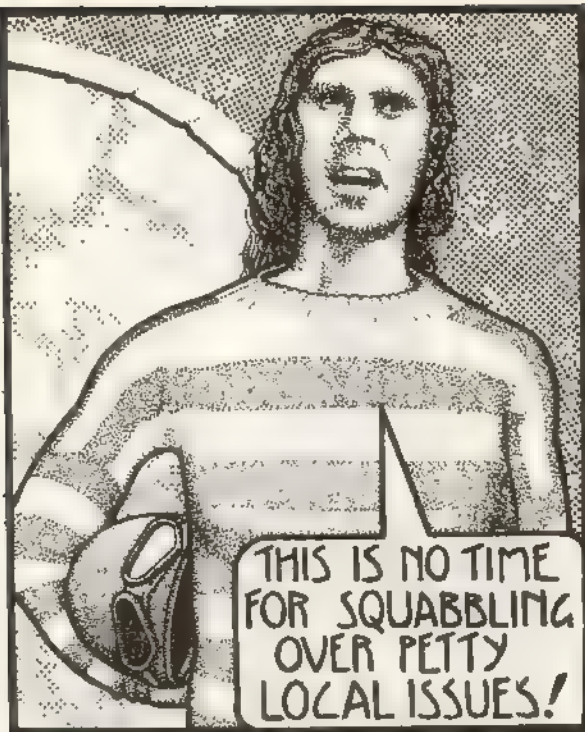
....OR LEAVE THINGS AS THEY ARE. I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT IT A LOT AND I THINK JIM'S OVERESTIMATED THE DANGERS. IT SEEMS TO ME WE CAN'T AFFORD TO SPEND TIME AND ENERGY...



ON DISMANTLING AND REBUILDING A BRIDGE-WHEN THERE ARE SO MANY OTHER MORE IMPORTANT JOBS TO BE DONE IN THE COMMUNE LIKE-

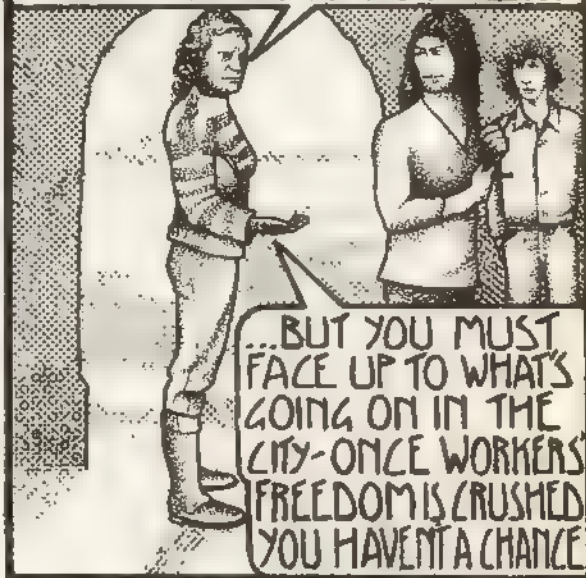


BULLSHIT!



THIS IS NO TIME
FOR SQUABBLING
OVER PETTY
LOCAL ISSUES!

LOOK, DON'T GET ME WRONG.
I LIKE WHAT YOU ARE
ALL TRYING TO DO HERE...

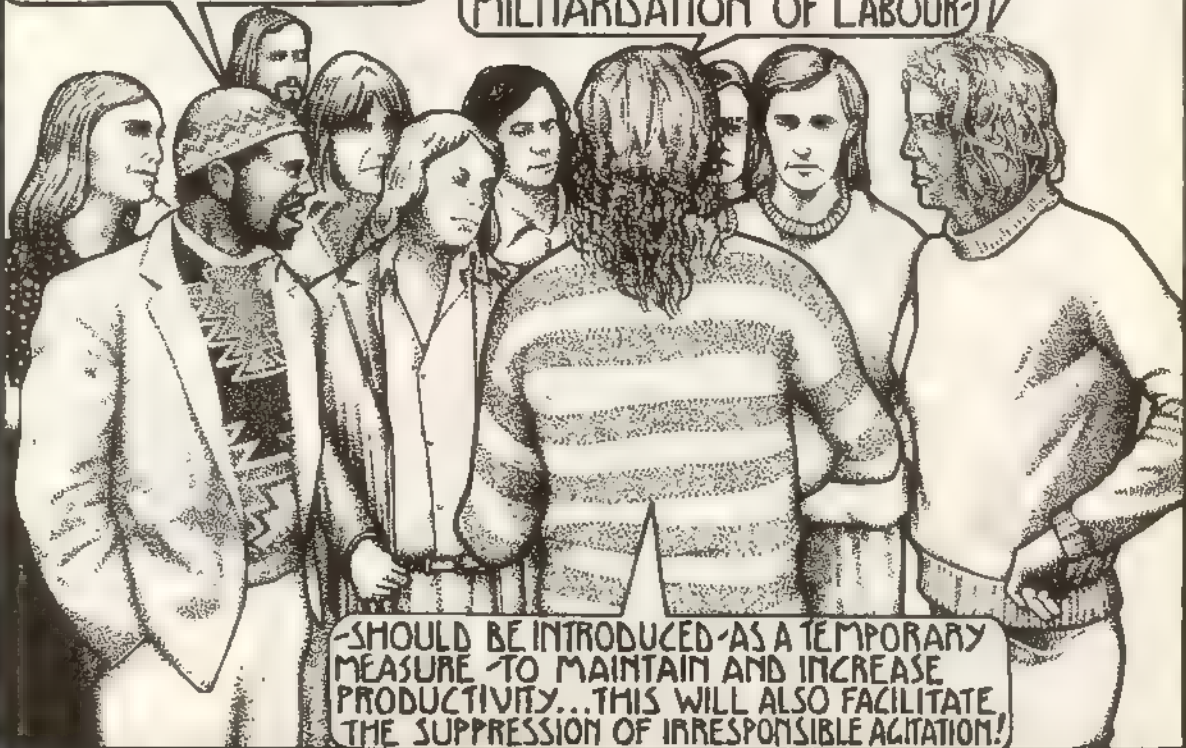


...BUT YOU MUST
FACE UP TO WHAT'S
GOING ON IN THE
CITY-ONCE WORKERS
FREEDOM IS CRUSHED
YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE

WHAT HAS ALL THIS
GOT TO DO WITH US?

IT'S THE TEXT OF A SECRET
PARTY DOCUMENT... "THE
MILITARISATION OF LABOUR"

(MAYBE IF YOU SHUT UP WE'LL BE ABLE
TO FIND OUT.)

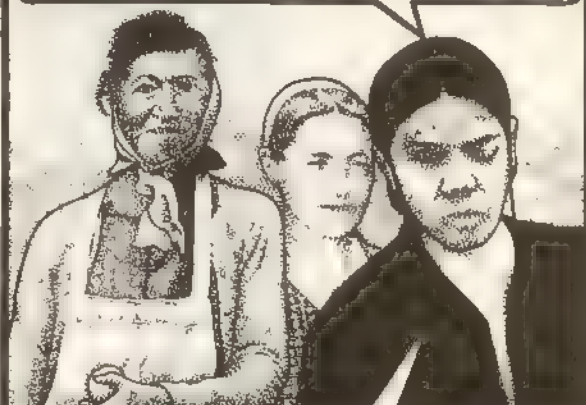


-SHOULD BE INTRODUCED AS A TEMPORARY
MEASURE TO MAINTAIN AND INCREASE
PRODUCTIVITY... THIS WILL ALSO FACILITATE
THE SUPPRESSION OF IRRESPONSIBLE AGITATION!

FROM THE WAY SHE TALKS YOU WOULD THINK THE PARTY LEADERS WERE A BUNCH OF SCHEMING POLITICIANS...

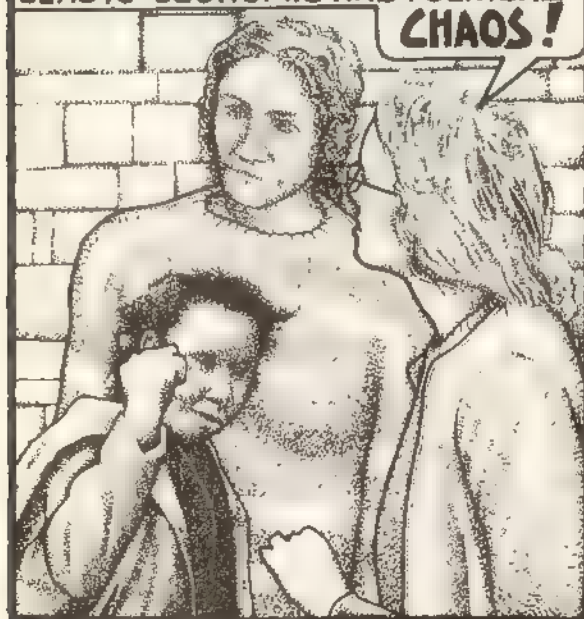


-MORE LIKE A GANG OF GENERALS! CAN'T YOU SEE THEY WANT TO TURN THE WORKERS INTO SOLDIERS - OBEYING ORDERS WITHOUT QUESTION....WE HAVEN'T ANY

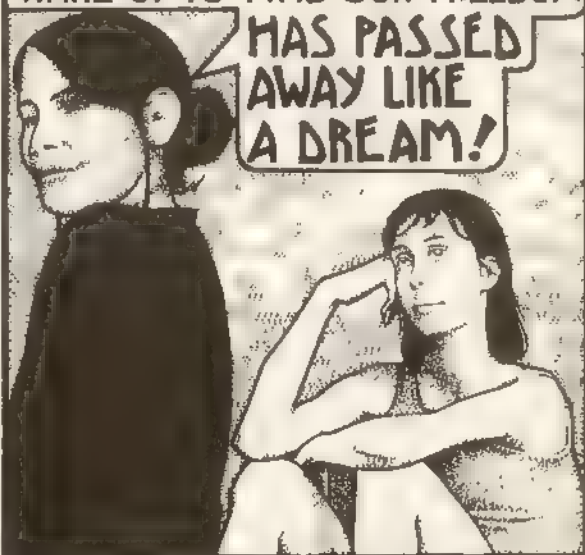


LEADERS HERE TO TELL US HOW TO RUN OUR COMMUNE....

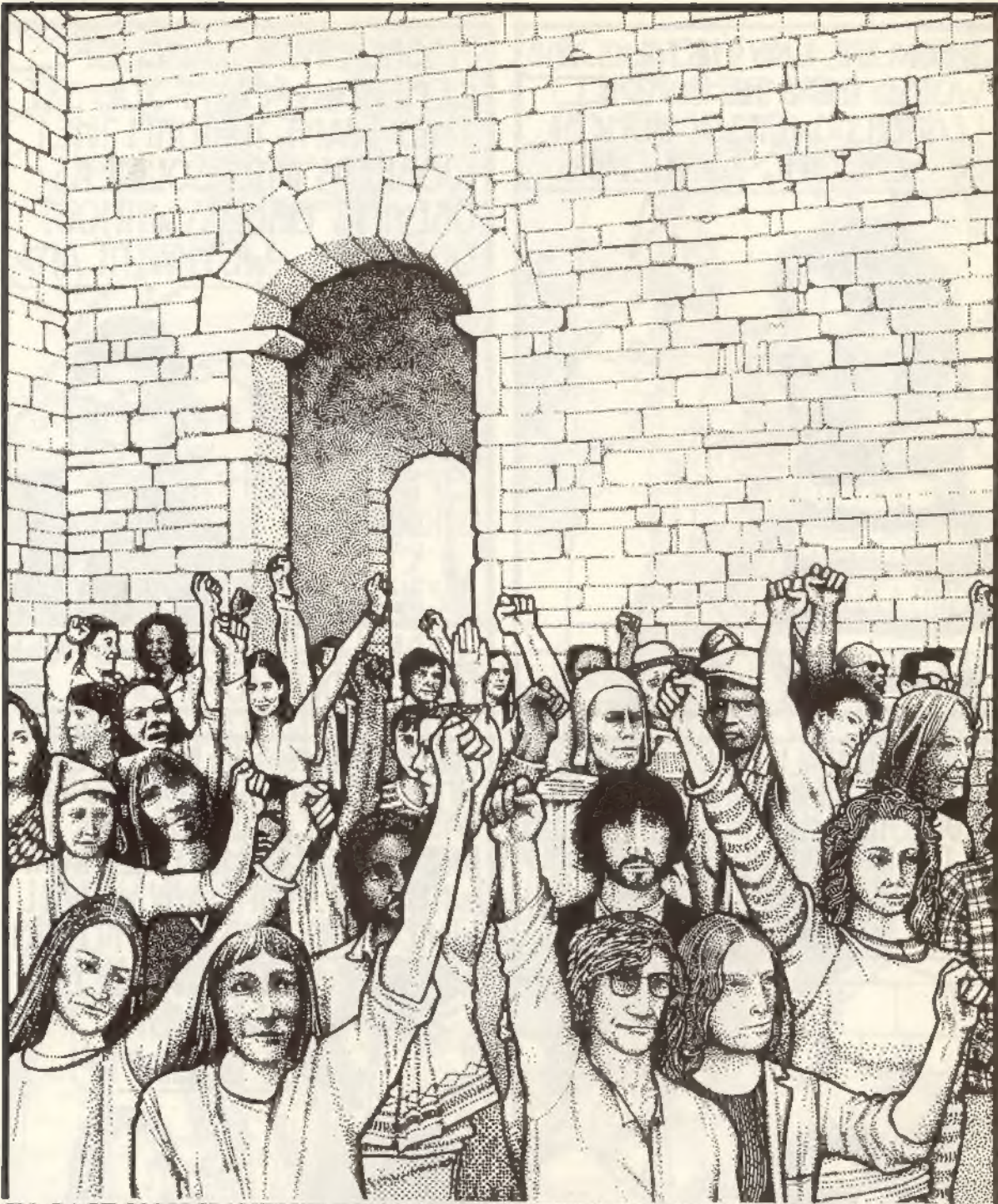
DON'T YOU REALISE THAT THE PARTY IS ACTING IN THE INTEREST OF THE REVOLUTION - UNINFORMED CRITICISM OF THE PARTY AT THIS TIME WILL ONLY LEAD TO ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CHAOS!



YOU'RE RIGHT! THIS IS A CRUCIAL TIME. WE CAN'T AFFORD TO BE PASSIVE SPECTATORS - IF WE SIT BACK AND LET THEM GET AWAY WITH THIS... ONE DAY WE WILL WAKE UP TO FIND OUR FREEDOM



HAS PASSED AWAY LIKE A DREAM!



IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T REALISED IT, THIS COMIK HAS BEEN ABOUT ALTERNATIVE POLITICS, SOME OPTIONS TO CAPITALIST RELATIONSHIPS IN THE NEXT COMIK WE'LL BE SEEING THE COMMUNARDS PRODUCING POWER, HEAT AND LIGHT, BUILDING THEIR OWN HOUSES AND MAKING THEIR ARTIFACTS, CLOTHES AND OTHER NEEDS THE THIRD COMIK WILL SHOW THE COMMUNARDS GROWING AND PRODUCING FOOD, CELEBRATING THE HARVEST AND BUILDING THEIR BASIC ECONOMY

Afterword

This is the first of six projected comix that deal with two basic problems that have always faced our society: how to change it and what to change it to.

The first three comix describe a Utopian society of about 2,000 people living in a rural situation.

The social organization is Anarchic. Decisions are flexible and arrived at by everyone considering the needs of everyone. Social relationships are not rigidified by artificial conventions such as male and female, husband and wife, teacher and student, producer and consumer. They are each responsible for the welfare of themselves and each other.

The community is totally self-sufficient in terms of food production. Their system of agriculture combines both traditional agricultural methods (such as planting and sowing by hand) with advanced machinery such as tractors and combine harvesters. Working with a humble respect for the earth and its mysteries, the Communards are concerned that their efforts do not destroy natural systems. Consequently, they do not use artificial fertilizers and pesticides but enrich and protect the soil with organic farming.

Sun, wind, rain, and decomposed matter--- natural, free energy sources--- are being harnessed to produce their power. Windmills are being used to generate electricity. Rain water is collected and human and animal shit is decomposed to produce methane gas. Such methods are resource conserving, non-polluting, and in harmony with natural cycles.

The Communards' other needs--- shelter, clothes, and artifacts--- are mostly produced by themselves in small workshops.*

The commune represents a dream of the future. It attempts to portray a possible, not a fixed, direction in which an alternative society might develop.

Which brings us to the second three comix of the projected six volume series. These deal with the more immediate and pressing problem of the processes involved in realising radical change, and specifically with the conditions of urban life in this post-revolutionary society. Historically the situation in the comix series is parallel to the situation in Russia in the years 1917 to 1921. A political revolution has occurred in which our present ruling class has been forced to relinquish all power to a Socialist government. A Socialist bureaucracy has arisen almost as repressive as the system it has replaced. The workers continue to struggle for their freedom.

We focus on an industrial community, say the size of Belfast or Liverpool, where the people are trying to take control of their everyday lives. Finding themselves still in opposition even to the new government, Councils and Co-operatives have spontaneously been organised.

In the factories, general assemblies of all the

workers meet regularly to discuss all areas of their work, from production to work conditions. Factory councils---constituted of one particular industry--- also meet to maintain relations with the world outside the factory.

In the streets and on the housing estates, tenants and street councils take over the role fulfilled by bureaucratic local governments, determining such things as housing developments, garbage collections, street cleaning, play areas, and education.

Local food co-operatives have been organised to distribute agricultural produce on a non-profit basis. Some skilled workers are attempting an alternative system of production by creating small workshops which are open for local communities to learn the skills and to produce what they need.

The decisions of the councils meet with the continual opposition of the government, which is trying to suppress them, using an armed police force and militia. The problem for these popular organisations becomes more and more how they can confront and defeat the State, while remaining truly democratic and of the people.

The people arm themselves.

In 1972, after four years of communal living, I began drawing this comik. At the same time, I was active in squatting, so it was not until 1974 that it was finished. It was intended as a criticism of friends who were turning their backs on urban life and politics to form rural communes. At the time this development seemed crucial to me, but looking back it appears pretty irrelevant.

Primarily, the comik is visual. I finished the drawings before writing a single word, even drawing the balloons before the script! In fact, only after drawings were complete did we discuss any kind of story line...

This is an attempt to explain and apologise for the poverty of the words. They are inelegant, rhetorical, dull and ponderous. All I hope is that the drawings make up for this. Originally, this book was to have been the first of the six-part series summarised above. However, due to the lack of encouragement [in England] I never carried on. Now, four years later, Kitchen Sink Enterprises is reprinting the comik. If you, the reader, like this, then perhaps I'll continue with the remaining five volumes.

---CLIFFORD HARPER, London, 1978.

We would like to see Clifford Harper finish his Class War Comix series. But we can only do so if the project is supported. Your letters of comment are solicited. So is your support. If you can help us distribute the comix for fund-raising purposes, wholesale quantities are available. The same is true to bookshops, labor groups, or any sympathetic organizations. For details (and letters) write:

Kitchen Sink Enterprises
P.O. Box 7
Princeton, Wisconsin 54968

Thanks for your support.-- The publisher.



CLIF FORD HARPER 1978



Sir Real's

**UNDERGROUND
COMIX CLASSIX**

Class War Comix

Published March 1979

(1st edition)

Kitchen Sink Enterprises

\$1.00

36 pages

Print run of 10,000 copies

6 7/8" x 9 3/4"

Stories:

Artists:

Cliff Harper - 1-34, 35(t), 36

Jay Kinney - 2(e)

Comments:

The first chapter of a projected graphic novel by an English cartoonist and anarchist. Set in a post-"revolution" future, the book raises doubts about the viability of "back to the land" solutions to social problems.